

San Diego River Conservancy
Capital Outlay Proposals
2007-08

BCP-03 Historical and Cultural Restoration and Preservation

The Conservancy requests, \$2.5 million comprised of the following fund sources: (1) the remaining \$1,603,000 balance of the unallocated, unappropriated portion of Proposition 40 Section 5096.610(d) for Historical and Cultural Resources (available for multiple departments); (2) \$400,000 of General Funds; (3) \$250,000 of future Park/Water/Conservation Bond funds; and (4) \$250,000 of Environmental License Plate Funds. The requested appropriation would be extensively leveraged with partner contributions.

The purpose of the requested appropriation is to fund high priority projects that restore and preserve the enormous wealth of historical and cultural resources within the San Diego River Area including 29 registered State Historic Landmarks and 4 National Historic Landmarks. The Conservancy's highest priority is the Old Mission Dam and Flume Restoration Project which will repair severe damage to the Dam and restore its six-mile hand-made tile flume. Another high priority project is the Presidio Park Slope Preservation Project which will repair and stabilize a failed slope that is currently threatening the invaluable archaeological resources atop Presidio Park.

- The request asks for 3 fund sources that are problematic. Generally, land conservancy's are not appropriated General Fund for acquisitions. The state General Fund is still in a deficit mode for 07-08 and the appropriation of limited General Fund dollars for land acquisition will probably not be a priority of the administration. In addition to the problems with General Fund, the ELPF is currently out of balance with expenditure exceeding revenues by in excess \$1 million annually. Finally, the request includes \$250,000 of future Park/Water/Conservation Bond funds. It is not policy of the Administration to appropriate from fund sources that do not already exist. In addition, the current bond proposal does not include any funding for the SDRC; therefore there would be no source of the funds to appropriate from.
- It appears that the conservancy may be able to fund some projects with the available Prop 40 Funds. The Conservancy's strategic plan notes 3 projects as cultural and historic resources.
 - i. Kumeyaay Lake and Berm Restoration (Estimated Cost \$3.3 million)
 - ii. Historic Mission Dam Dredging (Estimated Cost \$1.2 million)
 - iii. Presidio Park Slope Preservation (Estimated cost \$7-8 million)

Of the 3 projects listed only the Historic Mission Dam Dredging project can be fully funded with the remaining Prop 40 funds.

- The State Library currently administers this bond program. Discussions with DOF have noted that the Library may need the remaining bond funds to administer the current grants.

Based on the preceding analysis I would recommend that SDRC revise its proposal to only include the Historic Mission Dam Dredging for \$1.2 million.

